

U.S. Application No.
UnknownInternational Application No.
PCT/EP03/05586Attorney Docket No.
MEISS71.022APC

Date: December 22, 2004

10/519338

Page 1

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 USC 371**

International Application No.: PCT/EP03/05586
 International Filing Date: May 27, 2003
 Priority Date Claimed: June 27, 2002
 Title of Invention: OPEN-PORE METAL COATING FOR JOINT REPLACEMENT IMPLANTS
 AND METHOD OF PRODUCTION
 Applicant(s) for DO/EO/US: PLUS Endoprothetik AG

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. (X) This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 USC 371.
2. (X) This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 USC 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 USC 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
3. (X) A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
4. (X) A copy of the International Application as filed (35 USC 371(c)(2))
 - a) (X) has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - b) (X) a copy of Form PCT/1B/308 is enclosed.
5. (X) A translation of the International Application into English (35 USC 371(c)(2)).
6. (X) Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 USC 371(c)(3))

(X) have not been made and will not be made.
7. (X) A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report with any annexes thereto, such as any amendments made under PCT Article 34.
8. (X) An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
9. (X) International Search Report
10. (X) A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
11. (X) International Application as Published – Face Sheet Only
12. (X) A return prepaid postcard.
13. (X) The following fees are submitted:

U.S. Application No.
UnknownInternational Application No.
PCT/EP03/05586Attorney Docket No.
MEISS71.022APC

Date: December 22, 2004

10/519338

Page 2

FEES

BASIC FEE			\$1000	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	
Total Claims	27 - 20 =	7 ×	\$50	\$350
Independent Claims	3 - 3 =	0 ×	\$200	\$0
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS \$1350				
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE				\$1350
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED				\$1350
amount to be refunded:				\$0
amount to be charged:				\$0

9. The fee for later submission of the signed oath or declaration set forth in 37 CFR 1.492(e) will be paid upon submission of the declaration.
10. A check in the amount of \$1350 to cover the above fees is enclosed.
11. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge only those additional fees which may be required, now or in the future, to avoid abandonment of the application, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:



Josue A. Villata
Reg. No. 54,511
Customer No. 20,995
(949) 760-0404

Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear LLP

Intellectual Property Law

2040 Main Street
 Fourteenth Floor
 Irvine, CA 92614
 Tel 949-760-0404
 Fax 949-760-9502
www.kmob.com

10/519338

Josué A. Villalta
 949-721-7678
jvillalta@kmob.com

MAIL STOP PCT
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

Attorney Docket No. : MEISS71.022APC

Applicant(s) : PLUS Endoprothetik A.G.

For : OPEN-PORE METAL COATING FOR JOINT
 REPLACEMENT IMPLANTS AND METHOD
 OF PRODUCTION

Attorney : Josué A. Villalta

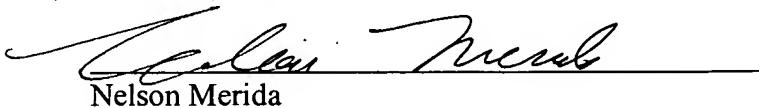
"Express Mail"
Mailing Label No. : EV 309072039 US

Date of Deposit : December 22, 2004

I hereby certify that the accompanying

Transmittal letter; specification in 17 pages; Preliminary Amendment; Copy of International Preliminary Examination Report; Information Disclosure Statement, PTO Form 1449 without references; Copy of International Search Report; Face Sheet only for International Application as Published; PCT Form IB/308; Check for Filing Fee; Return Prepaid Postcard

are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and are addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Nelson Merida

H:\DOCS\UXV\UXV-1957.DOC
 122204

San Diego
 619-235-8550

San Francisco
 415-954-4114

Los Angeles
 310-551-3450

Riverside
 951-781-9231

San Luis Obispo
 805-547-5580